

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



**FISCAL NOTE**

**SB 1569 - HB 1562**

February 19, 2016

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Prohibits a person serving as legal counsel for a local education agency (LEA) from holding any other position with an LEA. If the LEA is a city or county school district, then the LEA's legal counsel shall not hold any other position with the county or city government, respectively.

**ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Increase Local Expenditures – Exceeds \$50,000\***

Assumptions:

- Depending on the arrangement of legal staff within an LEA, city, or county government; local governments and LEAs will be required to employ additional legal counsel or contract with an additional third-party to provide such services.
- Based on information from the Comptroller, the average salary for LEA legal staff is between \$100,000 to \$250,000 and the contract rate for an outside legal counsel is between \$150 to \$300 per hour.
- The number of legal counsel who are working for an LEA or city or county government and who also hold a joint position with the LEA or local government is unknown.
- Though the number of local governments and LEAs who will be required to employ legal counsel or contract with an additional third-party is unknown; based on information from the Comptroller, it is reasonably estimated that the mandatory recurring increase in local expenditures will exceed \$50,000 statewide.
- No change in the Basic Education Program (BEP) funding formula.

*\*Article II, Section 24 of the Tennessee Constitution provides that: no law of general application shall impose increased expenditure requirements on cities or counties unless the General Assembly shall provide that the state share in the cost.*

**CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Krista M. Lee". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

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